Assistance for relief extended by the Central Government is determined by the award of the Finance Commissions. As per the award of the Eleventh Finance Commission, Central share to the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 90.22 crores (Rs. 23.37 crores, Rs. 32.61 crores and Rs. 34.24 crores in the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively) were released. Further, to meet the additional expenditure on relief on major floods, based on norms of assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), Rs. 33.29 crores was released.

Assistance to Southern States for drought and fodder shortage

599. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious drought conditions and acute shortage of fodder in Karnataka and other Southern States; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of assistance given by Government to Karnataka Government so far to meet the situation besides strengthening the fodder bank and the fodder seed production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Governments of Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka reported drought due to deficient rainfall during South-West Monsoon 2001. No report on acute shortage of fodder has been received from them.

(b) The entire Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2001-02 amounting to Rs. 58.72 crore has been released to Karnataka. 1 lakh MTs of foodgrains free of cost for Food for Work Programme and 2 lakh MTs of feed grade foodgrains for use as cattle feed have been allocated. As per available information, there is no pressing requirement of cattle feed as also fodder. Funds have also been released under related schemes implemented by Ministry of Rural Development and Department of Drinking Water Supply.